

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) Method for centrally running parking areas with a central parking meter (100) without issuing parking tickets, comprising the steps of: selecting a parking time via a selection device (3); inserting a chip card (1) of a user into a read-write unit (2) of the parking meter (100); a central control device (6) of the parking meter (100) debits an amount of money corresponding to the selected parking time to said chip card (1), reads an identification number inherently provided on said chip card (1) off of said chip card (1), sets up an individual credit account in a memory disposed in said parking meter (100) and assigned to said central control device (6), and stores said identification number and the value of the debited amount of money in said ~~assigns a code to the chip card (1), and assigns said code a credit account; charging an amount of money corresponding to the selected parking time from the chip card (1)~~

~~and crediting said amount of money to the credit account;~~  
displaying indicating the selected parking time with a display an  
indicating device (7, 8, 9) of the parking meter (100); reducing  
the value stored in said credit account in accordance with a  
clock signal of a time generator (4) and with a table of fees  
stored in said memory assigned to the central control device (6);  
~~monitoring the parking time using a time generator (4) with the~~  
~~central control device (6); and, if the parking time is~~  
terminated before expiration of the already paid parking time,  
the chip card (1) is inserted into the read-write unit (2), and  
the central control device (6) checks if the identification  
number of the anewly inserted chip card (1) coincides with the  
identification code stored in said credit account set up in said  
memory; and if it coincides, the central control device credits  
the residual value corresponding to the difference between the  
selected parking time and the actual parking time and stored in  
said credit account to the chip card (1), and is connected with  
~~the credit account via the code, the actual parking time is~~  
~~compared with the selected parking time and based on the~~  
~~difference an amount of money to be paid back is determined by~~  
~~the central control device (6) and said amount of money to be~~  
~~paid back is credited to the chip card (1), and said residual~~

value amount of money to be credited ~~paid~~ back is displayed by said display a visual indicating device (7).

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 6, wherein a parking space is selected via the selection device (3).

10. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 6, wherein the parking meter is operated with a battery.

11. (Previously presented) Parking meter according to claim 1, wherein the selection device (3) is configured for selecting a parking space.

12. (New) Method for centrally running parking areas with a central parking meter (100) without issuing parking tickets, comprising the steps of: selecting a parking time via a selection device (3); inserting a chip card (1) of a user into a read-write unit (2) of the parking meter (100); entering a PIN code via said selection device (3); a central control device (6) of the parking

meter (100) debits an amount of money corresponding to the selected parking time to said chip card (1), sets up an individual credit account in a memory disposed in said parking meter (100) and assigned to said central control device (6), and stores said PIN code and the value of the debited amount of money in said credit account; displaying the selected parking time with a display device (7, 8, 9) of the parking meter (100); reducing the value stored in said credit account in accordance with a clock signal of a time generator (4) and with a table of fees stored in said memory assigned to the central control device (6); if the parking time is terminated before expiration of the already paid parking time, the chip card (1) is inserted into the read-write unit (2), said PIN code is entered via said selection device (3), and the central control device (6) checks if the entered PIN code coincides with the PIN code stored in said credit account set up in said memory; and if it coincides, the central control device credits the residual value corresponding to the difference between the selected parking time and the actual parking time and stored in said credit account to the chip card (1), and said residual value to be credited back is displayed by said display device (7).